VOLUME VIII, NUMBER 6 December 1991

THE MUNI MEMO

OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE SAN FRANCISCO MUNICIPAL RAILWAY

PUC Loses a Friend

Juanita Calhoun Flynn.

On Saturday November 2nd, Juanita Calhoun Flynn, wife of longtime Public Utilities Commissioner H. Welton Flynn passed away at Mt. Zion Hospital after having undergone elective surgery.

Mrs. Flynn's sudden death came as a shock to her family and friends. The Flynns had been married for 49 years, having met in high school in Jacksonville, Florida. They had lived in San Francisco since 1943.

Mrs. Flynn was widely known for her quick wit, her devotion to her family and her religious faith. She was a member of All Hallows Roman Catholic Church, where she served in the Altar Society.

A funeral mass, attended by

Continued on pg. 8

Muni To Get New Italian LRVs

After an extensive negotiated procurement process, the Public Utilities Commission has approved the purchase of 35 new light rail vehicles from Breda Construzioni Ferroviarie of Pistoia, Italy.

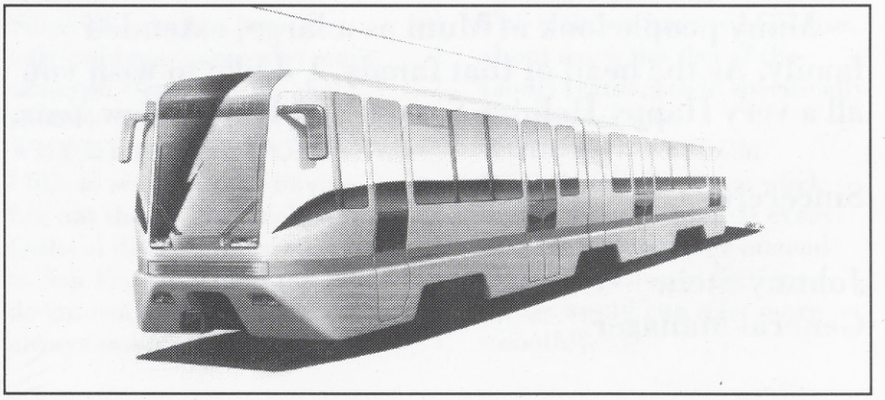
With 60 percent of their parts and systems manufactured by American firms, the new LRVs, at a cost of approximately $2 million each, will be built in Italy. They will be shipped to the United States for final assembly with a scheduled delivery date in 1995. The contract includes an option for the construction of 20 additional vehicles.

Designed to supplement the ailing Boeing light rail fleet as the Boeing cars are gradually phased out, the new vehicles will be constructed to withstand San Francisco's challenging conditions — the rigors of heavy loads, frequent braking, traveling on difficult terrain, and negotiating tight turns.

They will feature more doors (all of which will be equipped with movable high-low steps for platform and on-street boarding), air conditioning, wheelchair lifts, wider aisles for easier circulation and large windows for better visibility.

The Breda cars will be 73 feet long, nine feet wide and ll feet, six inches high. Each will weigh approximately 76,000 pounds and will accommodate 62 seated passengers and up to 164 standees.

Breda is a major European railcar builder and has several major contracts in the U.S. Forty-eight LRVs have already been delivered to Cleveland, 366 rapid transit cars to Washington, D.C., and 236 articulated trolley buses to Seattle. Currently on order from Breda are an additional 100 rapid transit cars for Washington, D.C., and the first 30 cars for the Los Angeles Metro Rail System.



An artist's rendering of the new Breda LRV.

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Management Message

A Year Well Spent

As 1991 draws to a close, I'd like us to take a moment to look back over the past year and pat ourselves on the back for the many things Muni/PUC employees have accomplished on behalf of the Railway.

Graffiti Prevention has forged ahead with the $75,000 gift from Pacific Telesis in fighting the graffiti problem on Muni vehicles, our new articulated diesel buses are in service, the renovation of Potrero Division has been continuing full-steam ahead, new fareboxes are being installed on Muni passenger vehicles, Muni's Passport program has expanded to include a seven-day pass, the J line extension was completed with J and N cars pulling in and out of service on San Jose Avenue, Breda has been chosen to build our new light rail vehicles, and the Waterfront Transportation Projects have begun.

These are some of the major, visible accomplishments on Muni's behalf, but every day Muni employees are successfully completing behind-the-scenes work that contributes to the success of the Railway. I salute you all, no matter how big or small the job you are doing, and I thank you for your dedication and professionalism during 1991.

Many people look at Muni as a large, extended family. As the head of that family, I'd like to wish you all a very Happy Holiday Season and Happy New Year.

Sincerely,

Johnny Stein
General Manager

Editor's Box

Dear Reader,

We reported in the November *Muni Memo* that Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi was on hand at the Waterfront Projects Ground-breaking on Monday, October 28th. Although she was scheduled to attend, Congresswoman Pelosi, in fact, was unable to officiate at the event.

We hope you enjoy this last issue of 1991's *Muni Memo* by looking at a few photos we've collected from the past year. Have a very safe and happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

Anne Milner
Editor

Employee Notice

Muni Photographs Album
For Sale

If you're a transit buff or know of someone who is, you can do your holiday shopping right here in the *Muni Memo*.

Former Muni shopman Jeffrey Moreau is offering his newly published book *Muni Photographs, An All-Color Album Depicting San Francisco's Urban Transit System* for sale at a discount to employees of the City and County of SF. The book features color photos of all different kinds of Muni vehicles shot by Moreau during his 21-year career with The Railway. It normally sells for $26, but you can have it for $20.00 by filling out the coupon below and mailing your check or money order to Carbarn Press (address below). Allow three weeks for delivery.

I'd like to order_____copies of *Muni Photographs* at $20 apiece. I enclose a check or money order for_____.
Please send my book(s) to:

Name:_____

Address:_____

City: _____

State:_____Zip _____

Mail coupon with check/money order to Carbarn Press, P.O. Box 1990, Orangevale, CA 95662.

Job File

5288 Transit Planner II, Department of City Planning and Municipal Railway, $36,582-$44,356 annually. **5289 Transit Planner III**, (General Transportation positions) Department of City Planning, S.F. Airport and Department of Parking and Traffic, $41,496-$50,336. **5289 Transit Planner III** (Mass Transit Planning Positions), Municipal Railway, S.F. Airport, $41,496-$50,336) **5290 Transit Planner IV** (General Transportation positions), Department of City Planning, S.F Airport and Department of Parking and Traffic, **5290 Transit Planner IV** (Mass Transit positions), Municipal Railway and S.F. Airport, $41,496-$50,336. Applications accepted between November 15, 1991 and December 13, 1991. For information on all the above planning positions, call Civil Service at 557-4853. For general employment information, call the Civil Service Exam Unit's 24-hour information number at 557-4889. For information on currently issued job announcements, call 557-4888. For PUC positions, call 554-1669.

Congrats!

The Division Operators of the Month for November were:

Cable Car:	Michael Davis
Flynn:	Michael Postell
Green:	James Hayes
Kirkland:	Rolando Callorina
Potrero:	Juana Bengoa
Presidio:	Mary Ann Solls-Chamber
Woods:	Anthony Hardin

Credits

The Muni Memo is published by the Community Affairs Department of Muni. Contributions and comments may be addressed to the Muni Memo, Room 238, 949 Presidio Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94115, telephone 923-6162.

Editor: Anne Milner
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Gretchen Hildner
Kurt Wong
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Unsung Hero

Karl Johnson

7379 Mechanic in charge of Historic Trolley Car Maintenance

BACKGROUND: Karl was born and grew up in and around Leominster, Massachusetts, a town about 45 minutes from Boston. He moved to the Bay Area from Massachusetts in 1977 and very soon started working for Muni on the PCCs at the old Geneva Carbarn. He worked on the PCCs until they were retired in 1982, then switched over to the Boeing LRVs until 1984 when he worked on the cable cars after the completion of the renovation project. Since 1985, he has been the only paid mechanic who maintains old streetcars for the Historic Trolley Festival.

Photo: Carmen Magana

Karl Johnson.

WHY MY JOB IS IMPORTANT: I like to see everyone having fun out there. The Trolley Festival draws a lot of people to San Francisco and the downtown area and they're always smiling.

WHY I LIKE WHAT I DO: All the historic streetcars are diverse, not one of them is like another. For something built in 1896, you can't just run down to the auto parts store and buy a part. It's always a challenge maintaining these old cars, and the people who volunteer their time to help out make it a good team effort.

SOMETHING NOT MANY PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT ME: I have a fiancee, Eve Stromquist, and we have three cats, Sam, Pookie and Wimpy. We are both gardeners and have a miniature garden with a miniature train running through it.

HOBBIES/INTERESTS: The historic streetcars, model train building and gardening. Eve and I also belong to the Bay Area Garden Railway Society, a club of people who also have miniature gardens with trains. The train we have is LGV size, about twice the size of the Lionel trains, made specifically for outdoor use.

WORDS OF WISDOM/ PHILOSOPHY: Team work is always important. If everyone worked together instead of participating in factions, things would run a lot more smoothly.

Awards

November Systemwide Operator of the Month

Name:	Lawrence Herd
Division:	Woods
Years with Muni:	12
Background:	
Birthplace:	San Francisco
Education:	George Washington High School; City College of SF; Laney College, Oakland
Previous Employment:	Head teacher at SF Head Start
Marital Status:	Single
Children:	Kenya, 23 (Naval cadet)
Hobbies & Interests:	Piloting airplanes (12 years), Sailing (8 years), Sky Diving, Hang Gliding, Water Skiing, Snow Skiing, Home Computer
Words of Wisdom:	"If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem."
Additional Comments:	"I'd like to thank my supervisors and union reps at Woods Division for their guidance and support."

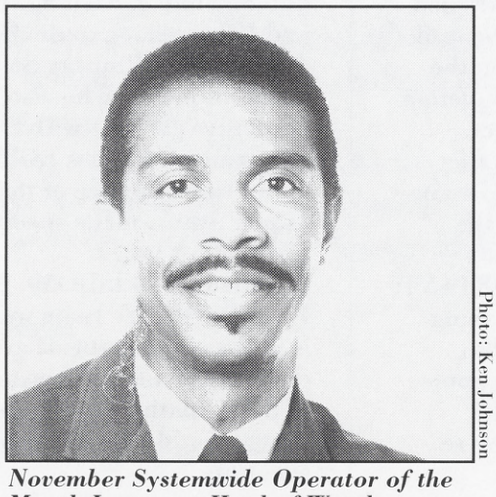


Photo: Ken Johnson

November Systemwide Operator of the Month Lawrence Herd of Woods Division.

November Systemwide Operator of the Month Runner-up

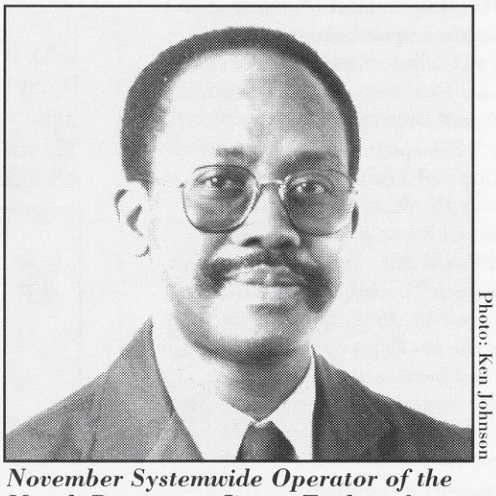


Photo: Ken Johnson

November Systemwide Operator of the Month Runner-up Jimmy Taylor of Woods Division.

Name:	Jimmy Taylor
Division:	Woods
Years with Muni:	13
Background:	
Birthplace:	San Francisco
Education:	John O'Connell Trade School
Previous Employment:	San Francisco Zoo (six years)
Marital Status:	Married to Lillie
Children:	Jimmy Taylor, Jr. 28; Ted Taylor, 19; Jamal Taylor, 15.
Hobbies & Interests:	Photography, oil painting, visiting zoos
Words of Wisdom:	"Strive for excellence."

Awards

November Maintenance Worker of the Month

Name:	Chung Chi Tam
Division:	Cable Machinery
Position:	7334 Stationary Engineer
Years with Muni:	Four
Background:	
Birthplace:	Hong Kong, China
Education:	Hong Kong Polytechnic, U.C. Berkeley Extension (Certificate in Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning)
Marital Status:	Married to Bo Yin Choy
Children:	Raymond Tam, 21; Susan Tam,18; Wilson Tam, 8
Hobbies & Interests:	Reading and traveling
Words of Wisdom:	Set a standard for yourself and you will exceed all others.

Photo: Gretychen Hildner

November Maintenance Worker of the Month Chung Chi Tam of Cable Machinery.

Engineering and Administration Worker of the Fall Quarter

Photo: Ken Johnson

Engineering and Administration Worker of the Fall Quarter Marjorie Wilhelm of the Telephone Information Room.

Name:	Marjorie Wilhelm
Position:	9122 Transit Information Clerk
Years with Muni:	10
Background:	
Birthplace:	San Francisco
Education:	John Adams High School, SF; Northern Virginia Community College, Alexandria, Virginia
Marital Status:	Divorced
Children:	Donna Alvarado (daughter), Donald Wilhelm, IV (son), Danny Alvarado (grandson)
Hobbies & Interests:	Spending time with family
Words of Wisdom:	"Take pride in everything you do."
Additional Comments:	"I truly appreciate being appreciated."

A Look at 1991

Photo: Carmen Magana

January: Operation Desert Storm protestors block Muni on Market Street.

Photo: Kurt Wong

March: Potrero Division Reconstruction in progress.

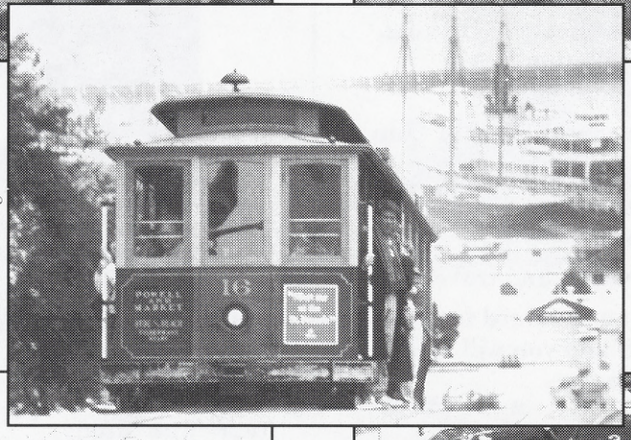


Photo: Kurt Wong

February: 100th Anniversary of Hyde Street Cable Car line.

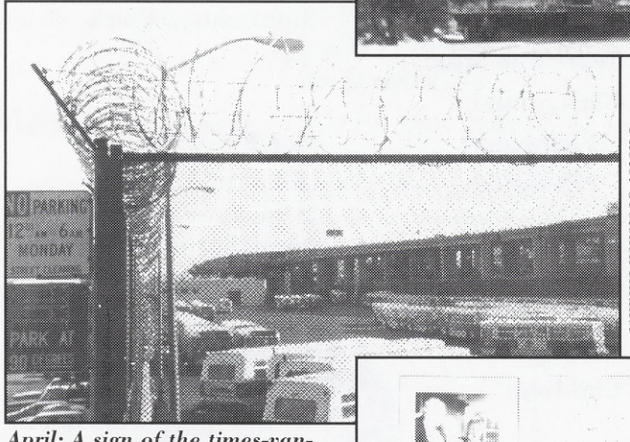


Photo: Gretchen Hildner

April: A sign of the times-vandalism protection in new barbed-wire fence at Woods Division.

Photo: Kurt Wong

June: Cable Car Bell Ringing Finalists Carl Payne, Famous Limbrick, Warren Robinson, Jr. and Al Quintana.

Photo: Kurt Wong

May: Inspectors' Club Raffle.

Photo: Gretchen Hildner

July: Maintenance Roadeo Winners Tom Nabonne, John Martin, Martin Ramos.

Photo: Carmen Magana

August: Safety Award Banquet/Roadeo Winners and Muni management Manuel Caceres, Jim Sauer,Rafael Cabrera, Len Olson, Romeo Arriaza and Bill Gordon.

Photo: Carmen Magana

August: Safety Awards Banquet/ Kathy Gilbert and Bobbie Brown with 31-year Safe Driver William Shelby.

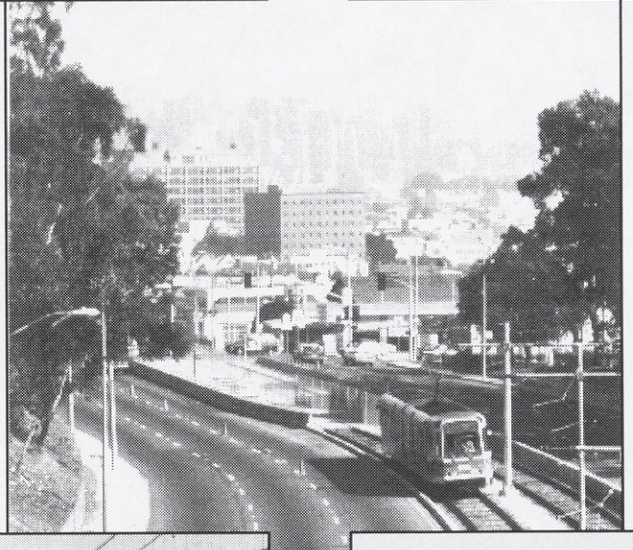
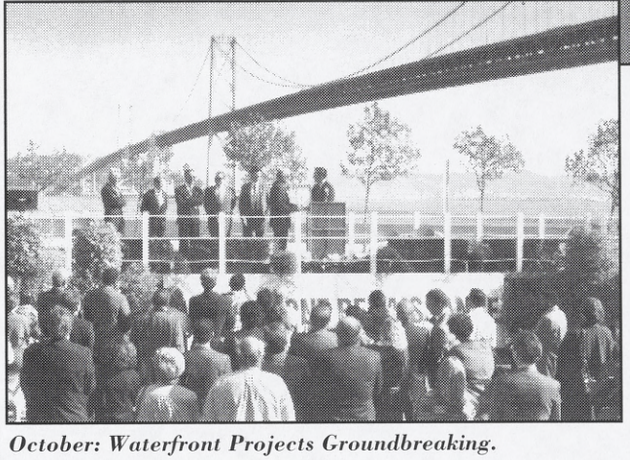


Photo: Ken Johnson

September: J line extension in operation.



October: Waterfront Projects Groundbreaking.

Photo: Carmen Magana

November: Damaged LRV 1297 being repaired at new Geneva Body Shop.

News

Ways and Structures Deserves a Hand

In the November *Muni Memo*, we reported on the Presidio Conference Room Ribbon Cutting. The most important thing we failed to mention, however, was who did the work and the fact that it was all done in house.

Muni employees from the Carpentry Shop, the Electrical Shop, the Sheet Metal Shop, and the Paint Shop as well as Stationary Engineers contributed to the project. The cabinetry was built at Muni and the new Conference Room door was hand-made to make it look like the other doors in the Presidio hallway. Thanks for a great job! It's beautiful.

Photo: Carmen Magana

The workers behind the remodeling of the Presidio Conference Room.

Transitions:

Transportation

Promoted/Reassigned:

Arthur Lewis has been named the General Superintendent of Surface Transportation. Brian Cunningham has been named the General Superintendent of Safety and Training. Louis Johnson has been named Deputy General Superintendent of Surface Transportation and James Christian has been named Grievance Officer. Former Grievance Officer Edward Jones has been named the Superintendent of Potrero Division. Former Superintendent of Safety and Training Dan Rosen is now on Deputy General Manager of Transportation Kathy Gilbert's staff.

Maintenance

Light Rail

Don Gee has been named Shop Superintendent for Running Repair and George Manessis has been named Shop Superintendent for Support Shops at the Green Light Rail Center. Nestor Daquigan has been named Electric Transit Mechanic Assistant Supervisor at Green Light Rail.

Trolley Coach

Rudy Sosa has been named Electric Transit Mechanic Assistant Supervisor at Potrero Division. Patrick Ho has been named Electric Transit Mechanic Assistant Supervisor at Presidio Division.

Juanita Flynn *Cont. from pg. 1*

top city and state officials including Mayor Art Agnos, Assemblyman Willie Brown, Assemblyman John Burton, Supervisor Doris Ward, Chief Administrative Officer Rudy Nothenberg, Public Utilities General Manager Tom Elzey, Muni General Manager Johnny Stein and others, was held at All Hallows Church on Thursday, November 7th.

The *Muni Memo*, on behalf of all Muni employees, sends its condolences to Commissioner Flynn, his sons Welton Cedric and Gerald Allan, and other members of the Flynn family. Our thoughts are with you.

George Newkirk Ailing

Labor Relations Director George Newkirk has been in intensive care at Kaiser Hospital since November 5th with complications resulting from a leaking heart valve and pneumonia. We wish him a speedy recovery! Is this any way to get a vacation, George? The Bahamas would be better. Get well!

Hired:

Administration

Gordon Smith from Anchorage, Alaska has been hired as a new 1314 Public Relations Officer for the Community Affairs Department. Gordon brings a wealth of experience to Muni, having worked in Alaska as a consultant in the public relations world. Gordon placed first on the Civil Service Exam given in August. He will be working on special events promotions such as the two-day celebration of the 100th anniversary of electric Streetcar Service in SF scheduled for April.

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